Bottom Tier Status Current as of January 12, 2016	Alaska Airlines MVP	American Airlines Gold	Delta Air Lines Silver Medallion	United Airlines Premier Silver					
Elite Qualifying Miles Required	25,000 (or 20,000 on Alaska only)	25,000	25,000	25,000					
or Segments	30	30	30	30					
Elite Qualifying Dollars Required	N/A	N/A	\$3,000 [3]	\$3,000 [3]					
Privileges									
Free Checked Bags	2 (50 lbs)	1 (50 lbs)	1 (70 lbs)	1 (70 lbs)					
for # of People	You + 8	You + 8	You + 8	You + 8					
Preferred Seating	Free at booking	Free at check-in	Discounted at check-in	Free at check-in					
for # of People	You + 8	You +8	You + 1 [4]	You + 1					
Earning Miles									
How Are Miles Earned?	Distance flown (500 minimum)	Fare paid (no max) [1]	Fare paid (75,000 max)	Fare paid (75,000 max)					
Bonus for Premium Fares	Up to 75%	N/A	N/A	N/A					
Bonus for Elite Status	50%	40% (7 total per dollar)	40% (7 total per dollar)	40% (7 total per dollar)					
Upgrades									
Free Domestic Upgrades	Unlimited	500-mile vouchers [2]	Unlimited	Unlimited					
Companion Domestic Upgrades	No	500-mile vouchers [2]	Unlimited	Unlimited					
Confirmed Upgrades	No	No	No	No					
Free Drink in Economy Class	No	No	No	No					
		Fees							
Agent Ticketing	\$15 - \$25	\$25	\$25	\$25					
Same Day Confirmed Change	\$25	\$75	\$50	\$75					
Same Day Standby	Free	Free	\$50	Free					
Close-in Award Ticketing	Free	Free	Not permitted < 72 hours	\$50					
Cancel Award	\$125	\$150	\$150	\$125					
General Information									
Strengths (Scott's Opinion)	 Good operational performance Partner w/ two U.S. airlines 	 Upgrade process improves availability (despite cost) 	Good operational performance	No fuel surcharges on awards Good award search tools					
Weaknesses (Scott's Opinion)	Limited route network		 No published award chart Benefits don't apply to E fares 						
Alliance	Partnerships with American, Delta, and other carriers	oneworld Alliance	SkyTeam	Star Alliance					
Footnotes: [1] American Airlines will continue to operate a distance-based earning plan until mid-2016. [2] Four upgrades are earned after each 12,500 miles flown; more can be pruchased for \$40 each. Upgrades for 500 miles or less are complimentary. [3] The EQD requirement can be waived with a co-branded credit card. [4] For travel before May 16, up to 8 companions receive complimentary access to Economy Comfort.									

Middle Tier Status Current as of January 12, 2016	Alaska Airlines MVP Gold	American Airlines Platinum	Delta Air Lines Gold Medallion	Delta Air Lines Platinum Medallion	United Airlines Premier Gold	United Airlines Premier Platinum
Elite Qualifying Miles Required	50,000 (or 40,000 on Alaska only)	50,000	50,000	75.000	50,000	75.000
or Segments	60	60	60	100	60	90
Elite Qualifying Dollars Required	N/A	N/A	\$6,000 [3]	\$9.000 [3]	\$6,000 [3]	\$9.000 [3]
			Privileges			
Free Checked Bags	2 (50 lbs)	2 (50 lbs)	2 (70 lbs)	3 (70 lbs)	2 (70 lbs)	3 (70 lbs)
for # of People	You + 8	You + 8	You + 8	You + 8	You + 8	You + 8
Preferred Seating	Free at booking	Free at booking	Free 72 hours before departure	Free at booking	Free at booking	Free at booking
for # of People	You + 8	You + 8	You + 1 [4]	You + 1 [4]	You + 1	You + 8
			Earning Miles			
How Are Miles Earned?	Distance flown (500 minimum)	Fare paid (no max) [1]	Fare paid (75,000 max)	Fare paid (75,000 max)	Fare paid (75,000 max)	Fare paid (75,000 max)
Bonus for Premium Fares	Up to 75%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Bonus for Elite Status	100%	60% (8 total per dollar)	60% (8 total per dollar)	80% (9 total per dollar)	60% (8 total per dollar)	80% (9 total per dollar)
			Upgrades			
Free Domestic Upgrades	Unlimited	500-mile vouchers [2]	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited
Companion Domestic Upgrades	Unlimited	500-mile vouchers [2]	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited
Confirmed Upgrades	4 systemwide upgrades	No	No	4 regional upgrades	No	2 regional upgrades
Free Drink in Economy Class	Yes	No	No	No	No	No
			Fees			
Agent Ticketing	Free	\$25	Free	Free	\$25	Free
Same Day Confirmed Change	Free	\$75	Free	Free	Free	Free
Same Day Standby	Free	Free	Free	Free	Free	Free
Close-in Award Ticketing	Free	Free	Not permitted < 72 hours	Not permitted < 72 hours	\$25	Free
Cancel Award	Free (paid tickets, too!)	\$150	\$150	Free	\$100	Free
			General Information			
Strengths (Scott's Opinion)	 Good operational performance Partner w/ two U.S. airlines 	Upgrade process improves availability (despite cost)	Good operational performance	 Good operational performance Get 20,000 bonus miles 	No fuel surcharges on awards Good award search tools	No fuel surcharges on awards Good award search tools
Weaknesses (Scott's Opinion)	Limited route network		 No published award chart Benefits don't apply to E fares 	 No published award chart Benefits don't apply to E fares 		
	Partnerships with American, Delta, and other carriers	oneworld Alliance	SkyTeam	SkyTeam	Star Alliance	Star Alliance
Footnotes: [1] American Airlines will are complimentary. [3] The EQD rec						Upgrades for 500 miles or less

Top Tier Status Current as of January 12, 2016	Alaska Airlines MVP Gold 75K	American Airlines Executive Platinum	Delta Air Lines Diamond Medallion	United Airlines Premier 1K					
Elite Qualifying Miles Required	90,000 (or 75,000 on Alaska only)	100,000	125,000	100,000					
or Segments	90	120	140	120					
Elite Qualifying Dollars Required	N/A	N/A	\$12,000 [3]	\$12,000					
Privileges									
Free Checked Bags	2 (50 lbs)	3 (50 lbs)	3 (70 lbs)	3 (70 lbs)					
for # of People	You + 8	You + 8	You + 8	You + 8					
Preferred Seating	Free at booking	Free at booking	Free at booking Free at booking						
for # of People	You + 8	You +8	You + 1 [4]	You + 8					
Earning Miles									
How Are Miles Earned?	Distance flown (500 minimum)	Fare paid (no max) [1]	Fare paid (75,000 max)	Fare paid (75,000 max)					
Bonus for Premium Fares	Up to 75%	N/A	N/A	N/A					
Bonus for Elite Status	125%	120% (11 total per dollar)	120% (11 total per dollar)	120% (11 total per dollar)					
Upgrades									
Free Domestic Upgrades	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited					
Companion Domestic Upgrades	Unlimited	500-mile vouchers [2]	Unlimited	Unlimited					
Confirmed Upgrades	4 upgrades awarded to MVP Gold	4 systemwide upgrades [2]	Additional 8 regional or 4 global	Additional 2 regional and 6 global					
Free Drink in Economy Class	Yes	Yes	No	Yes					
		Fees							
Agent Ticketing	Free	Free	Free	Free					
Same Day Confirmed Change	Free	Free	Free	Free					
Same Day Standby	Free	Free	Free	Free					
Close-in Award Ticketing	Free	Free	Not permitted < 72 hours	Free					
Cancel Award	Free (paid tickets, too!)	Free	Free	Free					
General Information									
Strengths (Scott's Opinion)	 Good operational performance Partner w/ two U.S. airlines Get 50,000 bonus miles 	 Upgrade process improves availability (despite cost) 	Good operational performance Additional 25,000 bonus miles	No fuel surcharges on awards Good award search tools					
Weaknesses (Scott's Opinion)	Limited route network		No published award chart Benefits don't apply to E fares						
Alliance	Partnerships with American, Delta, and other carriers	oneworld Alliance	SkyTeam	Star Alliance					
Footnotes: [1] American Airlines will continue to operate a distance-based earning plan until mid-2016. [2] 500-mile upgrades can be pruchased for \$40 each. Upgrades or 500 miles or less are complimentary. Up to 4 additional systemwide upgrades can be earned. [3] The EQD requirement can be waived with a co-branded credit card. [4] For travel before May 16, up to 8 companions receive complimentary access to Economy Comfort.									